

Individual	Organization	Date	Email Content
Jennifer Murtoff	Individual	16-Apr	The city of Chicago poses a huge danger to migratory birds; as a bird enthusiast and former volunteer with Chicago Bird Collision Monitors, I am disappointed to hear that the new SDP does not include measures to protect these species that pass through the city twice a year. The deaths and injuries are devastating, especially given the incident at McCormick Place last year. Please do the right thing and include policies that protect migratories. Part of a sustainability plan should be addressing the creatures with which we share the planet. Birds are a major part of that picture.
Jake Archbell	Individual	16-Apr	Strongly encouraging is not the same as requiring bird friendly design. What a shame.
Andy Burnham	Individual	16-Apr	The bird protection in the Sustainable Development Policy Handbook needs to be required, not optional. The cost is minimal if implemented in new buildings, as being demonstrated by New York and other cities who have taken strong actions. We should be leading on this issue since Chicago is the nation's most dangerous city for birds during migration. https://chicago.suntimes.com/2024/03/29/chicago-migratory-birds-city-planning-department-guidelines-priority-editorial < https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://chicago.suntimes.com/2024/03/29/chicago-migratory-birds-city-planning-department-guidelines-priority-editorial __!B24N9PvPQId!b2mjK-7WtbjgkVdMpoGVZvnJz4e_spVXKQn9wgEEXbELm_LTZ-nqzQL8jKJzWtrG0qVqsxeCtbsU\$> Specifically, Bird Protection (Basic) – 20 points should be mandated so high-risk features and facades are addressed for all new construction. Enhanced protection should be given a higher weighting if it is made optional. These pics are birds that died hitting a condo building in my neighborhood on Sunday. We need the city to implement mandatory rules to stop this from happening.
Thea DiLeonardi	Individual	17-Apr	Imagine you were on vacation for six months in sunny South America. Now imagine you're on your way home to breed--an exciting prospect. You fly thousands of miles back home...just to die flying into a glass building because you couldn't tell the reflection of sky and trees from reality. This is the fate of thousands of migratory birds in Chicago. Chicago, an amazing city that should be a leader in sustainability. Chicago, a bird killer. We need these birds to live. They are a crucial part of our environment. This NIH article < says, " humans.<br="" including="" many="" members="" of="" play="" pollinators,="" predators,="" roles="" roles,="" scavengers,="" seed="" these=""> I volunteer with the Chicago Bird Collision Monitors. I've seen firsthand what buildings do to our wildlife. I've picked up hundreds of dead and injured birds. I've attached a photo of a dead white-throated sparrow I found this morning. I hope it makes you as sad as it makes me. There are solutions to this problem. You have the power to enact change to protect innocent and important lives. Make bird-friendly designs mandatory. Make Chicago a leader in environmental and sustainable practices.
Carolyn Petrakis	Individual	17-Apr	As a longtime resident of Chicago and retired clinical social worker deeply concerned about the environment, I am troubled by the city's failure to prioritize bird safety in its recent Sustainable Development Policy (SDP) draft. Despite overwhelming public support, the Chicago Department of Planning and Development (DPD) omitted mandatory bird protection measures from the policy update, neglecting a critical aspect of wildlife preservation. Chicago stands as a significant threat to migratory birds, yet it lags behind other cities in implementing necessary bird-friendly regulations. Peer cities have demonstrated that such measures can be incorporated seamlessly into building projects without significant delays or costs. It's imperative that Chicago takes proactive steps to protect the millions of birds passing through our region. Requiring bird-friendly standards for new constructions and renovations is a modest yet essential measure to safeguard these vital creatures and support the health of our environment. Bird protection must be made mandatory in Chicago's Sustainable Development Policy. The declining bird populations underscore the urgency of this issue, and it's time for the city to lead by example in prioritizing wildlife conservation.
Paulina Pinto	Individual	17-Apr	The bird protections need to be mandatory in the SPD. Chicago needs to make new buildings safe for birds as this is a crucial step in moving the city less of a death trap for migrating birds. We don't need any more headlines like what happened at McCormick Place to ever happen again.
Clare Connor	Individual	17-Apr	It is not too late to reject the version of the building development policy that excludes protection for birds migrating in the spring and the fall. Our great city is on a major pathway from migration, and it is a shame that its leadership cannot see that to required developers, and current building owners to do more to protect birds. This goes beyond simply Liking and wanting to protect birds. They are crucial to our environment, to pollination for plants throughout the world and for insect control
Sarah Brotherton	Individual	17-Apr	The City of Chicago lags behind other large cities in protecting birds from our deadly buildings. It is nonsensical planning that a city built on a major migratory flyway would ignore its impact on the birds that must travel through the area in the spring and fall, and would almost appear callous and cruel. Chicago is a jewel along the lakefront. It shouldn't also be a killer of defenseless birds. Please reconsider the impact of allowing bird friendly design to be only optional -- please make it mandatory in future building projects, and save lives.
Kari Kreft	Individual	17-Apr	I understand that something was left off of the updated policy regarding making bird friendly design mandatory. I would like to voice my concern regarding this and the fact that developers can ask for multiple variances for buildings where the zoning is clearly stated. Why do we need to continue to fight to uphold the zoning and be a voice for the voiceless (birds). Please do the right thing and correct the policy.
John Kreft	Individual	17-Apr	I find it hard to believe that after the devastating news of hundreds or maybe even thousands of bird strikes into buildings along the lake shore tis past year, that by the way made national and world news, that you have the audacity to not make changes to address this preventable, horrific event. You have the power to do something about this and significantly reduce this risk of this happening again and again. It is shameful that you took no action on this with all the evidence and overwhelming public support. Please do your job and fix this problem. Make the bird friendly designs for buildings mandatory, please!
Liz Lehman	Individual	17-Apr	I was very disappointed to hear that DPD failed to make bird protections mandatory in your update to the Sustainable Development Policy. The public is very supportive of this measure! No one wants to find dead birds on the ground, but this happens all the time during migration season. I am disappointed that DPD chooses to ignore a serious threat to wildlife. As the American city that poses the greatest risk to migratory birds, Chicago should be leading efforts to provide bird protections. Instead, peer cities outpace Chicago on this issue while demonstrating these requirements can be implemented with no significant delays or expense to building projects. Requiring bird-friendly measures for new buildings and major renovations through the SDP is a small step toward making a safer city for the millions of birds that travel through our region. These birds play a critical role in the health of the environment, and their declining numbers should impress upon the city the urgency to protect them. Please reconsider and make this mandatory going forward.
Nancy Faust Jenkins	Individual	18-Apr	Migratory bird protection says a lot about the value humans place on our planet and ALL of its precious inhabitants that ultimately play s role in its ecosystem. Chicago should set and follow the example of other concerned cities .
Jayne Colwill	Individual	18-Apr	I'm shocked that Chicago's new Sustainable Development Policy does not require bird safety measures. On Monday the Chicago Department of Planning and Development (DPD) released a draft of its 2024 Sustainable Development Policy (SDP). In its work with Bird Friendly Chicago, its partners and supporters, Chicago Bird Collision Monitors asked the city of Chicago to make bird protection mandatory in this update, a measure that would be critical in preventing bird mortality. Unfortunately the DPD failed to do so, even in the face of overwhelming public support for this measure. I am disappointed that Chicago chooses to ignore a serious threat to wildlife. As the American city that poses the greatest risk to migratory birds, Chicago should be leading efforts to provide bird protections. Instead, peer cities outpace Chicago on this issue while demonstrating these requirements can be implemented with no significant delays or expense to building projects. Requiring bird-friendly measures for new buildings and major renovations through the SDP is a small step toward making a safer city for the millions of birds that travel through our region. These birds play a critical role in the health of the environment, and their declining numbers should impress upon the city the urgency to protect them.
Liz	Individual	20-Apr	I am writing to express my profound disappointment with the Chicago Department of Planning and Development's failure to make bird protection a requirement for all new construction and significant renovations. Bird species across the globe are threatened with extinction. Chicago and the Chicago-Calumet River system are part of a critical flyway for migratory birds who can fly thousands of miles only to die in preventable ways in Chicago. A devastating 1,000 birds died one night when they flew into the glass walls at McCormick Place last October. It was a tragedy that made news around the world. It is shameful that this group continues to fail the species that we share this city with in such a manner. Given the leadership of the Chicago Department of Planning and Development is appointed by Mayor Brandon Johnson, I will not be voting for his re-election. A voter and advocate for sustainable, multi-species development.
Alicia McNamara Grott	Individual	20-Apr	I think it is shameful that you didn't pass an ordinance to protect our birds. You would rather protect monstrosities of architecture?? How many dead birds have you picked up? Just last year I found 2 that hit the local Walgreens. And that it a drop in the ocean (not the bucket!)

Sharon Porta	Individual	20-Apr	I am support of making bird protection a requirement in the upcoming revised development policy.
Paula R. Dempsey	Individual	20-Apr	As a bird lover, I am deeply disappointed with weak protection of migratory birds in the draft 2024 Sustainable Development Policy. I urge you to rescind the weak language in the policy and make bird protection a requirement for new construction and significant renovation projects so future generations can continue to enjoy the beauty of our bird communities.
Katharine Hannaford	Individual	20-Apr	I am writing to urge you to rescind the weak language in the draft policy of the Sustainable Development Plan and to revise it to require strong protections for birds. Chicago and the Chicago-Calumet River system are part of a critical flyway for migratory birds who can fly thousands of miles only to die in preventable ways in Chicago. A devastating 1,000 birds died one night when they crashed into the glass walls at McCormick Place last October. It was a tragedy that made news around the world. A sustainable Chicago must be sustainable for birds as well as humans. They are an essential part of our ecosystem. The City of Chicago must require builders to design buildings with bird protections, not simply recommend that they do so. In doing so, Chicago would join peer cities such as New York City, who have adopted legislation that requires buildings to be designed to protect birds.
Elizabeth Nishiura	Individual	20-Apr	I am extremely disappointed that the draft Sustainable Development Policy does not include mandatory protections for birds in new construction and significant renovation. Each year, thousands of birds die after colliding with Chicago buildings. This is a tragedy and an environmental threat for our entire planet. It also damages Chicago's reputation in the world community. There is still time to strengthen the draft by inserting mandatory bird safety requirements. I urge you to do so.
Karen Butler	Individual	20-Apr	Hello. I am very disappointed that the latest report from the DPS fails to require strong protection for migrating birds. Now that the damage that much new construction causes is well known, there is no excuse for the failure to require new buildings to incorporate protections for migrating birds. The same applies to the failure to address retrofitting existing buildings. The situation at McCormick Place is a scandal. If we want to be known as a world-class city, we don't want bird deaths to be the news that the world receives about us.
Kim Moran	Individual	20-Apr	The City of Chicago must do better and rescind the weak language regarding building requirements for migratory birds. This is a solvable problem if the Mayor and the City supported the suggestions for stronger protections for birds.
Dena Kramer	Individual	20-Apr	I urge you to rescind the weak language in the draft 2024 Sustainable Development Policy and require strong protections for birds.
tomcarter@fast-email.com	Individual	20-Apr	I am disappointed with the draft 2024 Sustainable Development Policy, which fails to make bird protection a requirement for new construction and significant renovation projects. Rather than assigning a point value along with all the other menu options developers can choose from, bird-friendly mitigations should be mandatory. Chicago is in a critical flyway for migratory birds who can fly thousands of miles only to die in preventable ways in Chicago. When 1,000 birds died one night upon flying into glass walls at McCormick Place last October, the tragedy made news around the world. Please rescind the weak language in the draft policy and require strong protections for birds.
susan stone	Individual	20-Apr	Chicago and the Chicago-Calumet River system are part of a critical flyway for migratory birds who can fly thousands of miles only to die in preventable ways in Chicago. A devastating 1,000 birds died one night when they crashed into the glass walls at McCormick Place last October. It was a tragedy that made news around the world. We urge you to rescind the weak language in the draft policy and require strong protections for birds.
Georgianna Whalen	Individual	20-Apr	Please revise the drafted policy to ensure stronger protections for migratory birds. Developers need to take measures to prevent bird collisions.
Jeffrey Rovner	Individual	21-Apr	It is incredible that you rate the bird protection at the same level of concern as sump pumps and work force development. The Midwest migration flyway, of which Chicago is a major element, creates hazards that are a main driver of bird deaths. A major component of these hazards are buildings (habitat loss is another). Birds crashing into buildings during migration is a major cause of bird fatalities. Are you not aware of this? When the birds are gone, they're gone. You can't change a design or standard and bring them back. Whole species are being wiped out. Would you allow electrical wiring to be exposed from a of a lack of concern for human lives? How is the lives of other animals different? What are you thinking?
Deb Hass	Individual	21-Apr	As a concerned Chicago resident, I urge you to remove the weak language in the draft Sustainable Development Policy and require protection for migrating birds. Protecting people and wildlife should be a requirement, not one among many options.
Katherine Czerwinski	Scientific Bindery Productions	21-Apr	I urge you to rescind the weak language in the draft 2024 Sustainable Development Policy and require strong protections for birds. Migratory birds travel thousands of miles each year only to die in preventable ways in Chicago. We can do better than letting 1,000 birds die in one day at McCormick Place.
George Proano	Individual	21-Apr	I am concerned that devopment with out taking care of birds will harm our environment even more. We need to protect nature since nature does not have a voice. We need to be steward of this planet and leave it better for our love ones and future communities. I pray you find the wisdom and courage to do what is right and protect the voiceless.
Camras, Linda	Individual	22-Apr	I am writing to ask you to support making the bird protection guidelines mandatory in the city of Chicago. Protecting our birds is important for so many reasons including the role they play in pollination and seed dispersion as well as the esthetic value they add to the lives of our citizens. The Covid pandemic with its accompanying isolation brought many people to realize how much comfort can be drawn from contact with the natural world. Birds can provide that contact to even the most dedicated urbanist citizen. Please help to preserve them.
Jennifer Murtoff	Individual	22-Apr	Are part of the SDP plan, another measure to help save birds is to end the TNR feral cat policy. Cats are the number one killers of native birds, and even when TNR'd and fed they continue to kill for sport. I am enclosing a graphic from US Fish and Wildlife.
Willow English	Individual	23-Apr	I was very disappointed to hear that Chicago's Sustainable Development Guidelines fall well short of where they need to be to protect birds. Chicago made international news last year as the location of a mass slaughter of birds, and this was the chance to make amends and take steps towards fixing the problem. There is no reason why Chicago should not have mandatory bird-friendly design standards, especially given its current position as the most dangerous city for bird collisions in the Americas. Chicago had a chance to be a leader, and instead chose to be a laggard. Please make this right and strengthen bird protection in the final version of these guidelines.

Thea DiLeonardi	Individual	23-Apr	<p>"The ecological roles of birds translate into vital ecosystem services that benefit humans in many ways." Here are some evidence-based facts on the importance of birds to humans and the environment. This is why you should care about buildings in Chicago killing thousands of birds per year. Please trust the science and make bird-friendly building design mandatory. This not only protects birds but it helps humans too. Sources are attached.</p> <p>Do you enjoy your morning coffee? How about corn on the cob at a summer barbecue? Do you eat apples and other fruit on a regular basis? How about wheat and other food that comes from crops? "Pest control services delivered by birds interact synergistically with pollination services delivered by insects (Classen et al. 2014), thus leading to increased quantity and quality of coffee (Coffea arabica) yields." "A classic example of the successful avian control of a pest species comes from tropical coffee plantations in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, and Puerto Rico, where the coffee berry borer Hypothenemus hampei—considered to be the world's most damaging insect pest in coffee—is successfully controlled by insectivorous avian communities often largely composed of wood-warblers." "Blackbirds eat substantial amounts of invertebrates, especially during the breeding season when corn kernels are developing. These invertebrates include insect pests of corn that cause far more crop damage than do blackbirds." "Mols and Visser (2002) reported that emplacement of nesting boxes to attract great tits (Parus major) reduced caterpillars and fruit damage and increased fruit yield. The increase in yield was striking, from 4.7 to 7.8 kg apples per tree, an astonishing increase of 66%." "Many granivorous bird species consume the seeds of agricultural weeds, potentially reducing the competitive effects of these weeds on crop plants." "Most granivorous bird species feed their young large quantities of invertebrates, and may thus help reduce invertebrate pest populations (i.e., contribute pest control service) in agricultural plantations."</p> <p>Building a house? Buying furniture? You need timber for that. "Consequently, the economic impact of defoliation by pests, such as budworms, from loss of timber yields and costs of control measures may exceed a billion dollars per year (Ayres & Lombardero 2000). Although we know of no estimate of the economic value of woodpeckers in the budworm-forest interaction, by regulating budworm populations and reducing the frequency of outbreaks, woodpeckers must contribute substantially to the economic value of timber harvested from spruce-fir forest ecosystems around the world."</p> <p>Do you like breathing fresh air? You need trees for that. Do you enjoy hiking, walking in forests, or admiring flowers and plants? "Marquis and Whelan (1994), working in Missouri oak forest, found that excluding birds from sapling white oak (Quercus alba) significantly increased density of leaf-damaging insects and leaf damage, which in turn decreased production of new biomass in the subsequent growing season." "Solomon et al. (1977) placed logs containing codling moth (Cydia pomonella) [major agricultural pests] cocoons in apple orchards. They found that logs caged in wire netting to exclude birds experienced almost no losses of cocoons over winter and spring, but losses on uncaged logs accessible to birds exceeded 90%." "Native woodpeckers and other bark-foraging insectivores represent one of the few potential natural predators of emerald ash borer (EAB) in the U.S. In this study, we combined observational and destructive tree harvesting approaches to assess bark-foraging bird predation on EAB larvae in a deciduous forest of central Ohio. Results of our observational study show that in an EAB impacted forest, bark-foraging birds forage more heavily on ash trees than non-ash trees, and that they forage preferentially on ash trees that exhibit canopy decline symptoms relative to those with healthy canopies." "Woodpeckers harvest EAB in a density-dependent pattern that could contribute to population control." "Bark-foragers respond to EAB infestation and may thus potentially help regulate EAB populations and their spread in a mixed deciduous forest." "Our experimental results imply that insectivorous birds are an effective (and likely cost-effective) means to control insect damage to Quercus alba, a commercially important tree species." "Songbird predation on leaf-damaging insects enhances biomass production of saplings of economically important tree species, even at endemic population levels of these insects." "Many plants depend on pollination by animals for successful seed set. Over 920 species of birds pollinate plants." "Seed dispersal is among the most important ecosystem services provided by birds ... When birds disperse seeds of plants of economic significance (lumber and landscape species, Table 2), their activities may represent provisioning services." "Bothered by bugs? Good news: birds eat tons of them." "We estimate the prey biomass consumed by the world's insectivorous birds to be somewhere between 400 and 500 million metric tons a year." "Annually, the global population of</p>
Jen Steadham	Individual	24-Apr	<p>As a volunteer with the Chicago Bird Collision Monitors (CBCM), I'm reminded daily that bird protections are needed in our city. My bird rescue work downtown is a mix of getting birds to rehab and collecting those that haven't made it. This volunteer work exists because Chicago is the most dangerous city for birds in the US, but has no requirements for new buildings to incorporate bird-friendly design standards. This is unacceptable - bird protection is not optional and needs to be mandatory in the city's Sustainable Development Policy. We are in the middle of a migratory flyway of which millions of birds use every year. Building lights draw birds in, glass kills them. They cover incredible distances to breed and raise young - some all the way from Canada to southern South America... only to die in Chicago when they meet confusing lights and glass skyscrapers, cutting off additional generations to come.</p> <p>I normally find birds already grounded, but that wasn't the case 10/5/23 when Chicago experienced a mass casualty event. It was a wake up call for the city and a morning that still haunts me. Due to the sheer volume that day, I watched as birds crashed full speed into buildings and then fell lifeless to the ground, often dying in my hands a short time after. This went on for hours... over and over again. It was devastating and is still hard to talk about. That day, the CBCM collected over 2,000 birds. This is in addition to the 1,000 birds that died at McCormick Place. It doesn't have to be this way.</p> <p>I am disappointed that Chicago chooses to ignore a serious threat to wildlife. As the American city that poses the greatest risk to migratory birds, Chicago should be leading efforts to provide bird protections. Instead, peer cities outpace Chicago on this issue while demonstrating these requirements can be implemented with no significant delays or expense to building projects. Please move to require bird-friendly measures for new buildings and major renovations.</p>
Emily Bowers	Green Building Initiative	26-Apr	Update 3 and 4 Green Globes to "Three" and "Four" Green Globes
Marcie Roman	Individual	29-Apr	Update Green Globes Path to Net Zero Carbon/Net Zero Energy to Green Globes Journey to Net Zero Carbon/Net Zero Energy (same program, just updated branding)
Chrissy Swartz	Individual	29-Apr	Please make MANDATORY the bird-friendly provisions in the sustainability checklist. Construction standards that address biodiversity need to be the norm in Chicago, as they are in other cities. Chicago, as the worst US city for bird deaths, needs to step up and lead. We have the materials and design solutions, and architects and developers are stepping up to these standards in other cities. The Chicago Department of Planning and Development needs to accept the overwhelming public support for these measures.
Sylvia Woolter	Individual	29-Apr	Please make MANDATORY the bird-friendly provisions in the sustainability checklist. Construction standards that address biodiversity need to be the norm in Chicago, as they are in other cities. Chicago, as the worst US city for bird deaths, needs to step up and lead. We have the materials and design solutions, and architects and developers are stepping up to these standards in other cities. The Chicago Department of Planning and Development needs to accept the overwhelming public support for these measures.
Christine Esposito	Individual	1-May	The deaths of tens of thousands of native birds in our city are preventable. Please make the bird-friendly provisions in the 2024 Sustainable Development Policy mandatory. I recently received the latest issue of Living Bird, the national magazine of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. It features an 8-page article about the disastrous day last fall when more than 1,000 migrating birds died as a result of collisions with the glass windows of McCormick Place. This event is known around the world. This is not what I want my city to be known for. Experts have deemed Chicago the most dangerous city in the US for birds. This is not what I want my city to be known for. Making the bird-friendly provisions of the Sustainable Development Policy mandatory will greatly reduce the number of preventable bird deaths in our city -- and help restore our reputation as a leader in environmental action.
Nate Hutcheson	Individual	1-May	I agree with the Chicago Ornithology society that Chicago should be following best practices, at a minimum, but preferably setting the gold standard for a bird friendly urban design. Let's be leaders not lagards!
Jennifer Marchuck	Individual	1-May	I am contacting you regarding the 2024 Sustainable Development Policy. Please consider implementing stronger protections for migratory birds for new construction and renovations. I'm sure you heard about the 1.0K birds that died last year after flying into the McCormick Place (which was completely preventable). Thank you for your consideration.
Debbie Dixon	Individual	1-May	I am absolutely in favor of requiring bird-friendly design standards in the DPD's Sustainable Development Policy! Please protect these beautiful creatures and ensure protections for them are provided. It should be made mandatory during the draft policy's 30-day period. Count me in as a strong supporter of our birds and their migrations.
Adrian So	Individual	2-May	I am extremely disappointed to hear from the DPD that bird-friendly building standards will not be made mandatory as part of the updated Sustainable Development Policy, as released on April 15. Chicago lies on one of the most important migratory pathways for birds in North America, and bird collisions account for tens of thousands of bird deaths every year. We cannot lay claim to being a sustainable city, if we are directly responsible for the continued decline of birds in North America. Since 1970, North America has lost three billion birds (https://www.3billionbirds.org/ < https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.3billionbirds.org/_!B24N9PvJPQId!ZA3spwXBeBixP-piXRldqjBSVEOcGHYASZla2Gu6wDTA37H942MtoTlrgJ0qWOKV5luzhL7hl8oJ5gD8OEM8\$). If New York City and San Francisco can pass mandatory bird-friendly building standards and not incur significantly more costs, we should be able to in Chicago too. We can and must do better.

Judy Pollock	Chicago Bird Alliance	2-May	<p>Although cities are not often associated with wildlife conservation, Chicago has an important role to play in the conservation of wildlife in our hemisphere. Millions of birds fly over Chicago every night during the height of their migration between the sub-tropical and tropical forests to our south and the boreal forest and tundra to our north. Many stop over in Chicago, and tens of thousands of them collide with windows and die each year.</p> <p>Chicago is the most dangerous city for migrating birds because it is near the river of birds migrating through the middle of our country, and because it generates so much light, which draws birds off their migratory route. These birds are not pigeons and house sparrows - they are warblers, flycatchers, hummingbirds, tanagers and other birds, many of whom never see a city, glass, or city lights except on migration. Many are rare or declining.</p> <p>In recent years, great strides have been made in making window glass that birds will not collide with - and that people enjoy. This glass adds little to the cost of a building and is getting less expensive all the time as demand grows. Many major cities such as New York, San Francisco and Toronto are requiring this glass in new buildings. Our coalition, Bird Friendly Chicago, has worked with the DPD for 4 years developing model regulations and a guidebook to show developers how to implement them. Skokie and Evanston have taken our work and implemented bird-friendly regulations.</p> <p>Please make bird-friendly regulations mandatory under the Sustainable Development Policy. I fear that innocent birds are caught in the back and forth between city government and developers. Every bird-killing building that goes up adds to the toll on these birds that are also facing habitat loss, cats, pesticides and climate change. This is one problem that we can solve easily.</p> <p>For little cost, you can endear yourself to hundreds of thousands of Chicagoans who care about the creatures we share the planet with. Please help the bird by making bird protections mandatory in the new sustainability checklist.</p>
Amelia Tabeling	LBBA	3-May	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to review the new 2024 draft.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please clarify the difference between getting 5 or 10 points for EV charging F4 or F5. To get the 10 points are the 4 fast chargers in lieu of the 30% or in addition to the 30%? Or, is it 30% of spaces where the 4 fast chargers can be included in the 30%? 2. We do projects that are 100% affordable on-site through DOH, but because they are not subject to the city ARO (through the waiver and PD process), are they not eligible for points through D.3? Further, how would these types of projects be viewed for the D.10 points - I believe they would fall under the second approach. 3. For third-party certification, could projects receiving the 45L Tax Credits for Zero Energy Ready Homes get any additional points directly from that certification?
Nathan Kuhlman	Individual	3-May	<p>Make Bird Protection Mandatory! As a citizen of Cook County and lifelong Chicagoan, I was extremely disappointed and embarrassed when the city's draft of its 2024 Sustainable Development Policy failed to include protections for migrating birds. As one of the most dangerous cities to migrating birds, and as a city that is supposed to be leading the way for sustainability and environmental welfare, this is a significant shortcoming. Instead, peer cities are outpacing Chicago on this issue while demonstrating these requirements can be implemented with no significant delays or expense to building projects including New York City, where a bill passed in 2020 ">https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.nyc.gov/assets/buildings/pdf/1115of20_sn.pdf_!!B24N9PvJPQld!YKCrztdt28T8tyz78x5U3nh61ok4oZ5LjHl_LKVXx5qppGbdJ60ZjWByx-kRSz3C9UlhvF_JEoTJKXZ93ZewwA\$> and took effect in 2021 requiring the use of bird-safe glass for the first 75 feet in all new buildings. Birds are our closest wildlife neighbor - if we can't take these actions to protect them, how can we expect to make any progress on more complex sustainability issues? I am appealing that protections for birds should be made mandatory in the final draft of Chicago's 2024 SDP. Make the right choice.</p>
Patrick Danaher	Morris Architects and Planners	6-May	<p>For projects that attempt a stringent technical Third-Party building certification program, such as Passive House, accommodation is needed for when a design & construction just misses certification which may have a large financial impact on the project late in the process. Clients may be hesitant to attempt these important environmental energy saving strategies if there may be a large financial unintended "penalty" possibly at the end of a project.</p>
M Cornell	Individual	8-May	<p>Please make MANDATORY the bird-friendly provisions in the sustainability checklist. Construction standards that address biodiversity must be the norm in Chicago, as they are in other cities. Chicago, as the worst US city for bird deaths, needs to step up and lead. We have the materials and design solutions, and architects and developers are stepping up to these standards in other cities. The Chicago Department of Planning and Development needs to accept the overwhelming public support for these measures.</p>
Marsha Schneider	Individual	9-May	<p>I am writing today to let you know how disappointed I am to learn that bird protection is not mandated for either new construction or significant renovation projects. I urge you to require strong protections for birds going forward. The language in the draft is too weak. The draft must be rewritten so that the language clearly requires in no uncertain terms strong protection for birds in new construction and also in significant renovation projects.</p>
Vickie Brodersen	Individual	9-May	<p>I urge you to rescind the weak language in your draft policy and require strong protections for birds.</p>

Richardson, Sarah	Individual	9-May	<p>I'm a professor at DePaul University in the Department of Biological Services. In one of my classes, I teach about designing bird safe buildings. I would like to ask the Department of Planning and Development to make designing bird safe buildings required, rather than optional, in the update to the Sustainable Development Policy. Some of the options for designing bird safe buildings don't cost more than a normal building would. Some options even save money, such as shutting off lights in buildings at night and reducing unnecessary exterior lights. Fritting, drawing ceramic dots or designs on glass, lets the birds see the glass. Fritting also can save money because less heat is used in the building. More information for architects and planners on bird-friendly design is available at the American Bird Conservancy's website: https://abcbirds.org/glass-collisions/architecture-planning/ <<a ___!!b24n9pvpqid!aykih_yndntcybmcbhaki4a-tsedn6t7zokisliish5zvlqwo3fo2uqke3it-k2w5f3gpp8lx_agkt-op7hoq\$><="" __https:="" a="" abcbirds.org="" architecture-planning="" glass-collisions="" href="https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://abcbirds.org/glass-collisions/architecture-planning/___!!B24N9PvPQId!aykih_YndNtCYBMCbHAKI4A-tsedn6T7ZOkISLiiSh5zVLQWo3fo2uqke3It-k2W5F3GpP8lx_aGKt-Op7hOQ\$></p> <p>< Architects & Planners <<a 04="" 08="" 2019="" americas="" bird-building-collisions-scli-intl-scn="" href="https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://abcbirds.org/glass-collisions/architecture-planning/___!!B24N9PvPQId!aykih_YndNtCYBMCbHAKI4A-tsedn6T7ZOkISLiiSh5zVLQWo3fo2uqke3It-k2W5F3GpP8lx_aGKt-Op7hOQ\$></p> <p>A report from Cornell's Lab of Ornithology found that around 600 million birds die every year from colliding with buildings in the U.S. Chicago was ranked as the most dangerous city in the U.S. for birds. https://www.cnn.com/2019/04/08/americas/bird-building-collisions-scli-intl-scn/index.htm <<a "="" href="https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://www.cnn.com/2019/04/08/americas/bird-building-collisions-scli-intl-scn/index.html___!!B24N9PvPQId!aykih_YndNtCYBMCbHAKI4A-tsedn6T7ZOkISLiiSh5zVLQWo3fo2uqke3It-k2W5F3GpP8lx_aGKt4SuKMw\$> l The bird deaths in Chicago matter because more than half of bird species in the U.S. are declining. https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/more-than-half-of-us-birds-are-in-decline-180980924/ <<a ___!!b24n9pvpqid!aykih_yndntcybmcbhaki4a-tsedn6t7zokisliish5zvlqwo3fo2uqke3it-k2w5f3gpp8lx_agkt30xjdwq\$><="" __https:="" a="" href="https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/more-than-half-of-us-birds-are-in-decline-180980924/___!!B24N9PvPQId!aykih_YndNtCYBMCbHAKI4A-tsedn6T7ZOkISLiiSh5zVLQWo3fo2uqke3It-k2W5F3GpP8lx_aGKt30XjDwQ\$> We benefit from birds by them removing pests from our street trees and crops and eating large numbers of mosquitoes.</p> <p>Most people don't know that Chicago is an important area for migration. Birds that are flying north or south during migration fly along the shores of the lake rather than fly over it. I have seen tourists from other countries visit Chicago's Montrose Point just to see our birds. We have an amazing number of species fly through. Over 300 species of birds have been seen at Montrose Point. Letting the birds live when they move through is really important. Please make designing bird safe buildings required for developers.</p> <p>More Than Half of U.S. Bird Populations Are Shrinking <</p> <p>More than 1,000 birds killed in one night after hitting the same Chicago building CNN <</p>
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Jennifer Gunby	U.S. Green Building Council	14-May	Please find USGBC's comments on Chicago's draft 2024 Sustainable Development Policy (SDP) update attached. We are available to meet to discuss the proposed policy changes and our comments. Thanks.
Adam Flickinger JHM	Friends of the Chicago River Individual	14-May 14-May	<p>Please see the attached comments with regards to the draft Sustainable Development Policy update.</p> <p>I am a longtime resident and bird and nature (planet) lover and the sustainable development must be bird safe to be sustainable!!!! It's bad enough that we don't protect trees and they continue to be cut down for developments now we have buildings that are killing too many birds. Depressing is not strong enough language for what is taking place and happening to our migrating birds ☹️ We will still be a center of architecture and a fabulous city but we need to do more to protect and replace the natural world we are destroying. I think we're way behind on sustainability. We shouldn't have leaf blowers and we should be doing electric Landscaping--less mowing overall... and ban pesticides and herbicides.</p> <p>Also if all our public parks are gonna be private festivals all the time can we at least make the festivals sustainable by having compostable glasses and containers required?? Everything is just one giant garbage and habitat destruction factory.</p>
John Paul Jones	Grow Greater Englewood	15-May	Grow Greater Englewood (GGE) is a social enterprise Food and Land Sovereignty organization working to ensure healthy and productive living on the Southside of Chicago. GGE is engaged in urban farming, open space strategies, heat island reductions (CRTI - Tree Canopy Initiatives) and recently established a Community Land Trust organization. We are writing to record that we reviewed the Sustainable Development Policy Plan for 2024. GGE appreciates the dedication of time and commitment from the advisory team in developing this policy. A departmental policy that encourages innovation in sustainable development through a point-based menu of strategies for new construction, rehabilitation, additions and expansion projects. It's important for departments to have a tool by which to govern public spending and benefits applicable to projects receiving certain types of public funding or zoning approvals. Incorporating the Chicago Zoning Ordinance for Planned Development and Air Quality Ordinance projects, to contribute guidance in the redevelopment agreements process for City financial assistance is wise. In addition, we wish to thank the project team for reaching out to our Lead Steward - Executive Director Anton L Seals Jr. This is indeed an enhanced program approach!
Ken DeMuth	Pappageorge Haymes	15-May	Attached are comments to the draft that you put out for comment on April 15. We applaud the effort to expand, update and make the document an overall more user friendly tool for use with our partners and clients. The yellow indicates a category the has diminished in points or requires a higher level of compliance, the green is the opposite. The heavy box indicates a new category. Apologies for any typos or misinterpretations. If you have any comments or questions for us feel free to call at any time.
Emma Boczek	Metropolitan Planning Council	15-May	I am attaching MPC's public comment on the Sustainable Development Policy update to this email. We appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the update. Let us know if you have any questions!
Dara Reiff	Elevate	15-May	Attached please find Elevate Energy's comments regarding the 2024 SDP update.
Eric Mason	Farpoint Development	15-May	In response to the draft 2024 Sustainable Development Policy, our team, along with a group of partner firms, put together the attached summary of comments. We appreciate your efforts to incorporate feedback from the public and are happy to coordinate a time to further discuss our feedback on the draft SDP if desired.
Harley, Keith	Chicago Environmental Justice Network	15-May	Please be advised I represent the Chicago Environmental Justice Network. The first attachment is CEJN's comments on the draft Sustainable Development Policy. The other attachments are in support of CEJN's comments. Additional attachments in support of CEJN's comments will be sent in a separate email.
Harley, Keith	Chicago Environmental Justice Network	15-May	<p>Please be advised I represent the Chicago Environmental Justice Network. This is the second part of CEJN's comments on the draft Sustainable Development Policy. This second part consists of comments and supporting documents that were submitted in response to DPD's January, 2023 workshop on updating its sustainability policy. These comments are being resubmitted today by CEJN. The comments submitted following the January, 2023 workshop are as follows:</p> <p>"I'm writing in my role as a member of Chicago's Environmental Equity Working Group. Thank you for inviting me to participate in the January 31st meeting to discuss the status of updates to Chicago's Sustainable Development Policy. During the meeting, several community participants commented on the fact that DPD's proposed sustainability framework did not require developers or DPD to engage the community as part of assessing project sustainability. That is, a project developer could receive DPD approval based on meeting sustainability indicators without talking to the neighbors. Several participants urged DPD to incorporate community engagement as a factor in assessing whether a project meets sustainability criteria.</p> <p>Two GCLC law clerks, Abigail Barce and Jie Yang, are currently working with me on a landscape analysis on the topic of project sustainability and community engagement. I'm attaching some initial resources that are particularly helpful. These resources include a HUD-funded manual specifically addressing the topic of sustainability and community engagement, a DOE manual describing techniques to create and sustain a community engagement plan, Detroit's Host Community Benefits Ordinance, Seattle's guide to inclusive outreach and public engagement, and Newark's Environmental Justice Ordinance that incorporates project review by a citizen Environmental Commission (see: https://www.newarknj.gov/card/newark-environmental-commission <https://uridefense.com/v3/ https://www.newarknj.gov/card/newark-environmental-commission <!!B24N9PvjPQIdfogg_DSQ3NpoRBd1DQxCGCLtja_ib23FlakrFFzUc5-b5Qyfg4PYo8QL0m64BJ-KTHVUB4ZmRdvX_vQ6mr4nK53brw\$>).</p> <p>Based on these resources, some opportunities for community engagement as part of sustainability review include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. community engagement by the developer is a required element in order to achieve sustainability approval, similar to the way some elements are required by LEED even though they don't generate points; 2. enhanced community engagement by the developer could generate points toward achieving sustainability approval; 3. a DPD-led process to engage the community when it evaluates a sustainability application; 4. DPD establishes an advisory group as part of its project review process that includes community residents and subject matter experts. <p>These options are not mutually exclusive and this is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Rather, it is designed to quicken DPD's thinking about how community engagement could work in the context of its sustainability framework and review process.</p> <p>Another lesson is that sustainability and engagement with community members - whose communities will be forever changed by new additions and significant modifications to the built environment - are inextricably connected. Simply, sustainability cannot be assessed or achieved in a two-way conversation between regulators and developers. It must incorporate meaningful community participation, including easy access by community members to the same documents that regulators review, community meeting(s) and post-hearing opportunities for written comments. The goal should not only be sustainable projects, but also to ensure these projects contribute to sustainable communities.</p>